

REMARKS

The above amendment is submitted to correct several typographical errors and present new claim 25, which is presented to more fully provide protection for the scope of the disclosure.

In the Office Action dated November 17, 2004, restriction is required to one of the following inventions:

- I. Claims 1-12, drawn to the method for the manufacture of a tubular spacer for bone defects.
- II. Claims 13-23, drawn to a device.
- III. Claim 24, drawn to a kit for repairing bones.

Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group II, claims 13-23 with traverse, for further examination in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the inventions of Group I and Group III in a divisional application.

Although the examiner states that the device of claims 13-23 is classified in class 623/23.46, Applicants submit that similar subject matter to that being claimed is classified in class 623/17.11 and that claims 13-23 properly also should be classified there.

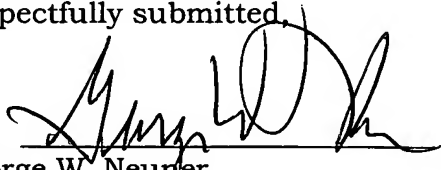
Applicants respectfully submit that at least the method claims 1-12 and device claims 13-23 should be examined together, along with new claim 25.

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If for any reason a fee is required, a fee paid is inadequate or credit is owed for any excess fee paid, the Commissioner is hereby authorized and requested to charge Deposit Account No. **04-1105**.

Respectfully submitted,

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